

Simulated Emergency Test: October 2018

Date: Saturday, October 13

Note: In Ontario the Simulated Emergency Test will be held on Saturday, October 13 but at Emergency Operations Centres that are located in Municipal offices, that can't get access on the weekend, the SET will also be held on Wednesday, October 10.

The Simulated Emergency Test is a North America-wide exercise in emergency communications, administered by the American Radio Relay League and the RAC Emergency Coordinators (EC) and Net Managers (NM). Both the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) and the National Traffic System (NTS) are involved.

The SET weekend gives communicators the opportunity to focus on the emergency-communications capability within your community, while interacting with NTS nets. RAC administers our Canadian SETs.

Among other objectives we aim to strengthen the relationship between ARES and served municipalities and relief agencies. It is vitally important that this be done at the local EC level.

Purpose of SET:

1) To find out the strengths and weaknesses of the ARES, NTS and other groups providing emergency communications.

2) To provide a public demonstration to served agencies, such as the Red Cross, of Emergency Preparedness and, through the news media, of the value to the public that Amateur Radio provides, particularly in time of need.

3) To help Radio Amateurs gain experience in communications using standard procedures and a variety of modes under simulated-emergency conditions.

Long-Running U.S. Federal Radio Stations, Beloved by Hams, in Danger of Shutdown

By Julianne Pepitone

Starting in May 1920, the U.S. federal WWV radio stations have broadcast the official time without fail. For ham radio operators, hearing the friendly "National Institute of Standards and Technology Time!" announcement is a comforting old refrain. For others, it's a service they've never heard of—yet in the background, it's what keeps the clocks and appliances in their daily lives automatically ticking along on time.

But after 98 years, this constant companion could soon go off the air. The proposed 2019 U.S. presidential budget calls for a 34 percent cut in NIST funding; in response, the institute compiled a budget-use plan that would eliminate the WWV stations.

At first blush it might sound like the natural end to a quaint public service from a bygone era. Do we really need radio-broadcast time signals in an era of Internet-connected devices and GPS?

Many would argue: Yes, we really do. More than 50 million devices in the United States—including wall clocks, wristwatches, and industrial appliances—keep time through the signal from NIST's WWVB station, operating from a site near Fort Collins, Colo., where it reads the time directly from an atomic clock. These radio-equipped clocks are permanently tuned to WWVB's low-frequency, 60-kilohertz signal. from the IEEE Spectrum

For more information please visit:
<http://wp.rac.ca/simulated-emergency-test/>

**LARC SENATE**

Robert Hansen VE3RVA
 Dave Kimpton VE3AVS
 Laurie Bridgett VE3BCD
 Terry Stewardson VA3LU
 Ed Baumann VE3SNW

LARC EXECUTIVE

President: Randy Gottfred VA3OJ
 Vice-President: Bob Hansen VE3RVA
 Treasurer: Bill Unger VE3XT
 Secretary: Karl Hamilton VE3RRP
 Board Member: Mike Skillen VE3EDX
 Board Member: Mark Vaillant
 VA3MVR
 Board Member: Brad Harris VE3MXJ
 Board Member: Lori Bedford
 VE3VAI

ABOUT US

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club (LARC) is an incorporated not for profit group of amateur radio operators in the Thunder Bay area that meet for self education, community service and fellowship. Our meetings are the second Thursday of the month at room 214 McIntyre Building, Confederation College, 7:30 PM. Our postal address is 1100C Memorial Ave. Suite 184, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 4A3. This newsletter is published monthly except for July and August by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and questions and submissions may be emailed to hqnewsletter@gmail.com

A big **THANK YOU** to those members that volunteered to stand for positions on the board of directors, and to those members who support the LARC by paying their dues and attending meetings.

*Thank
you*

LARC Emergency Coordinator**ARES District Emergency Coordinator**

vacant

CANWARN

VA3JMS John 767-3631

Public Service Events

VA3TBA Chris Chadwick

Accredited Examiners

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789
flesnick@tbaytel.net
 VE3VAI Lori Bedford 622 – 6386

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT(Mount Baldy)147.060 (-600) Phone Patch

VE3TBR (St. Joseph's) 146.820 pl 107.2

442.075 (+5 MHz)**pl 100**
 144.390 APRS

VE3UPP Upsala 145.470 (-600)



Minnesota's last ham radio store to close its doors

By: Christina Palladino

It's an end of an era for ham radio enthusiasts as the only store in Minnesota closes in the next few weeks.

Radio City in Mounds View has been in business for 36 years, serving generations of loyalists and newcomers to the ham radio community.

"It's one of only a handful of ham radio stores left in the country," said Dan Fish. "It's a place where folks can find a router like this one to help their TV antennas or some of the newer technologies like this transmitter that works over Wi-Fi."

After 36 years of helping customers pick out the right telescope or the perfect ham radio, owners Dan and Maline Fish are closing up shop.

photo

"You see the kids grow up and have kids of their own after 36 years in business but the people in this hobby is who I will miss the most," Dan Fish said.

Dan Fish had the background in electronics and Maline had the customer service expertise and knowledge of the inventory. Together though, they built one of the most successful amateur ham radio stores in the country.

"It's a collaborative effort and you need to have your community behind you otherwise you can't do it," said Fish. Loyal customers like Doug Renner wanted to check out the sidewalk sale before Radio City closes to see if he can nab any deals.

"It feels like an end of era," Renner said. "This is the last and really the only ham radio station and store in Minnesota."

Jason Schrofe drove up from Eau Claire and said he got into the ham radio scene because of the emergency preparedness aspect when all other types of communication goes down. He also likes storms.

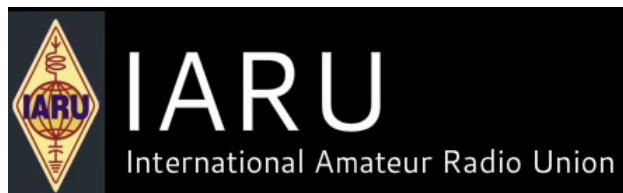
"I got into this because I'm a storm spotter and storm chaser and I'm a weather geek; I always have been," Schrofe said.

However, ham radio fans got into this scene they all say Radio City has made a huge impact throughout the region and beyond, entertaining their customers with great service and conversation.

For once, Dan Fish will be turning on his ham radios at home to keep in touch with his friends.

"I talk ham radio all day long, so I kind of have my radios off at home but it might be fun because I'll start turning my radio on more," he said.

The owners say they're looking to close Radio City by the end of the year or perhaps sooner. They said some of their most loyal customers are possibly interested in keeping this store going, but at this point the owners are looking forward to their next chapter: retirement.



Theme for World Amateur Radio Day: April 18, 2019

"Celebrating Amateur Radio's Contribution to Society"

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) has announced that the theme for World Amateur Radio Day, April 18, 2019, will be "Celebrating Amateur Radio's Contribution to Society".

The Administrative Council (AC) of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) held its annual in-person meeting on September 8 and 9, 2018 in Seoul, Republic of Korea, immediately prior to the IARU Region 3 Conference. The AC is responsible for the policy and management of the IARU and consists of the three IARU international officers and two representatives from each of the three IARU regional organizations.

After consideration of several possible alternatives the theme for World Amateur Radio Day, April 18, 2019, was confirmed as "Celebrating Amateur Radio's Contribution to Society".

Attending the meeting were IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA; Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR; Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ; regional representatives Don Beattie, G3BJ, Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AM, Ramón Santoyo, XE1KK, Gopal Madhavan, VU2GMN, and Peter Young, VK3MV. Present as observers were regional executive committee members Jay Bellows, K0QB, Ken Yamamoto, JA1CJP, and Don Wallace, ZL2TLL.

The next in-person meeting of the AC is scheduled to be held immediately prior to the IARU Region 2 Conference in Lima, Peru at the end of September 2019. Virtual AC meetings will be held by teleconference as required.

For more information visit: <https://wp.rac.ca/iaru-administrative-council-meeting-focuses-on-wrc-19-preparation-and-succession-planning/>

Alan Griffin
RAC MarCom Director



Minutes for the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

Date: September 13, 2018

President, Randy Gottfred VA3OJ Presiding.

Election of Board of Directors:

Incumbent Board:

President: Randy Gottfred VA3OJ
 Vice-President: Bob Hansen VE3RVA
 Treasurer: Bill Unger VE3XT
 Secretary: Karl Hamilton VE3RRP
 Board Member: Mike Skillen VE3EDX
 Board Member: Mark Vaillant VA3MVR
 Board Member: Brad Harris VE3MXJ
 Board Member: Not Elected

Newly Elected Board:

President: Randy Gottfred VA3OJ
 Vice-President: Bob Hansen VE3RVA
 Treasurer: Bill Unger VE3XT
 Secretary: Karl Hamilton VE3RRP
 Board Member: Mike Skillen VE3EDX
 Board Member: Mark Vaillant VA3MVR
 Board Member: Brad Harris VE3MXJ
 Board Member: Lori Bedford VE3VAI

Meeting Format change: Break time

Membership Tiers: now have \$50, \$100, \$200

Coffee Break, Socializing -30 minutes approx.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Unger VE3XT

Bill Unger VE3XT moves to accept the report as printed in Hi-Q. Seconded by Chris Chadwick VA3TBA Passed Unanimously.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Karl Hamilton VE3RRP moves to accept the previous meeting's minutes as printed in Hi-Q. Seconded by Chris Chadwick VA3TBA. Passed.

Old Business:

Public Service (Chris Chadwick VA3TBA public events coordinator)

Past Events:

Conquer the Dog was cancelled and will not be held again.

Xterra August John Sacek VA3JMS

Thanks to Norm Bob and Bill for volunteering. Thanks to Randy for getting the park repeater working.

Caribou September 9th, John Sacek VA3JMS

Thanks to Judy and Glen for volunteering

Hymers Fair

Thanks to Bill, Rita, and Bob for setting up. The clowns from the booth next door sent a thank you letter to the LARC for their help.

Upcoming Events

Santa Shuffle December Bob Hansen VE3RVA

CANWARN John Sacek VA3JMS

Warning issued August 5th, and Karl VE3RRP started net at 7:18pm through 8:20pm with 1 checkin. Warning issued August 8th for 1 hour, no net. There were a few other warnings after hours in the summer.

ARES

There is a Thunder Bay Area Coordinator Vacancy waiting for a volunteer.

Repeater News

Randy Gottfred VA3OJ,

Terry Stewardson VA3LU

YQT heliax needs to be secured to mast. Uppsala controller needed a reset by Randy. A new repeater will be going into Loch Lomond, one VHF and one UHF.

Club Trailer:

Bob Hansen VE3RVA

The trailer bumper and tongue were painted, new running lights installed, new AC plug installed by front door, and new propane tank installed. Mark reported securing new sponsors: Eric the Builder \$300 annually, Vulcan Fire and Safety \$1500, and Chartwell Retirement \$650.

Field Day

Karl VE3RRP: Thank you to Randy and Heather for their hospitality! Field Day was lightly attended. VE3FW was active on 5 bands using SSB, (40,20,15,10 and 6) making 29 contacts.

Adjournment moved by: Brandon VE3OTV

Next Executive Meeting: October 4, 2018, 7 PM, RM 213

Next LARC Meeting: October 11, 2018, 7 PM, RM 214

SAO Hosting Cub Scouts October 20

VE3SAO will be hosting the 6th St Thomas cub group again this in the VE3SAO shack at 55+ on River. It happens on Saturday October 20 and runs from 10 AM until early afternoon. We've been doing this for several years now and the cubs look forward to contacting other cubs around the world. If you're interested in helping out or have an activity idea please contact me at the meeting.

Bill Unger VE3XT



Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

September 2018 Treasurers Report

Opening Balance September 1, 2018 \$232.62

Income

September 13, Transfer from trailer fund for trailer maintenance	\$39.24
September 13, 50/50 draw	\$11.00
September 13, Membership dues	\$1,105.00
September 13, Donation for trailer fund	\$300.00

Total Income **\$1,455.24**

Expenses

September 11, Gas for transporting trailer to and from Hymers	\$42.00
September 30, Cheque imaging charge	\$2.00
September 30, Fixed Charged ammount	\$3.60
September 13, Transfer of donation to trailer account	\$300.00
September 13, Parts for trailer	\$39.24

Total Expenses **\$386.84**

Closing Balance September 30, 2018 **\$1,301.02**

Trailer Account

	Previous Balance	\$303.00
Income		
Transfer from chequing account		\$300.00
Interest		\$0.02
Total		\$603.02
Expenses		
Maintenance, transfer to LARC		\$39.24
Total Expenses:		\$39.24
	Balance in Trailer Account	\$563.78

Term Account

Opening Balance September 01 ,2018 \$2,062.33

September Interest \$0.42

Closing Balance September 30, 2018 **\$2,062.75**

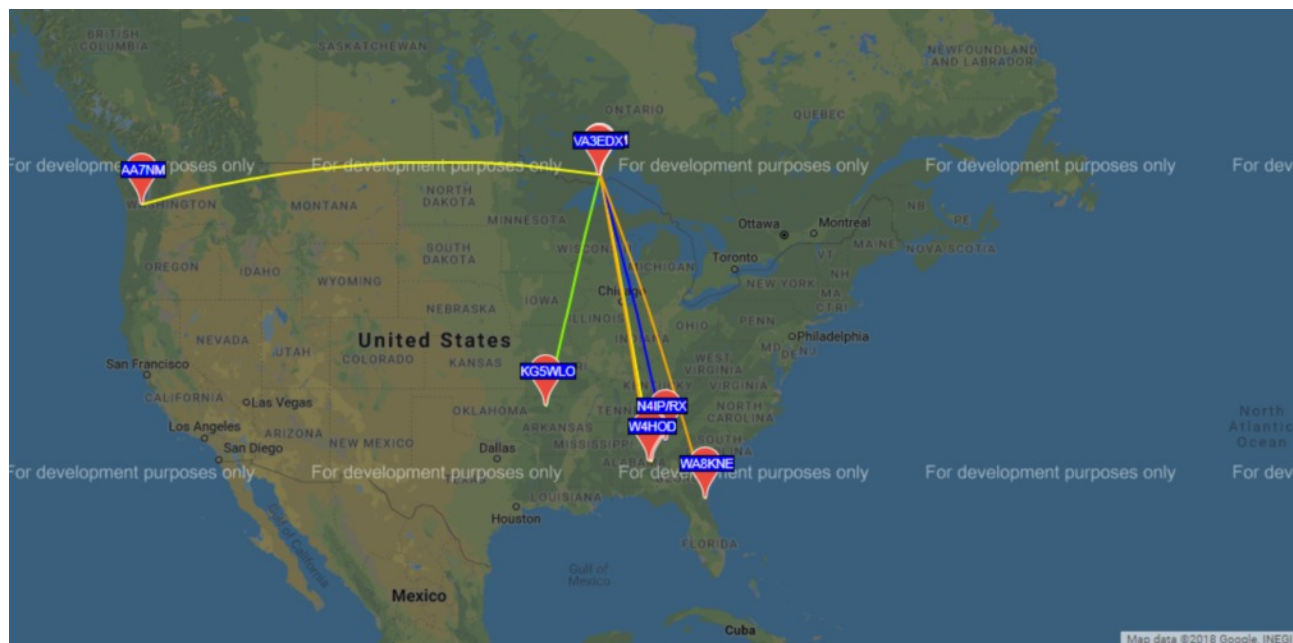
Bill Unger VE3XT
Treasurer



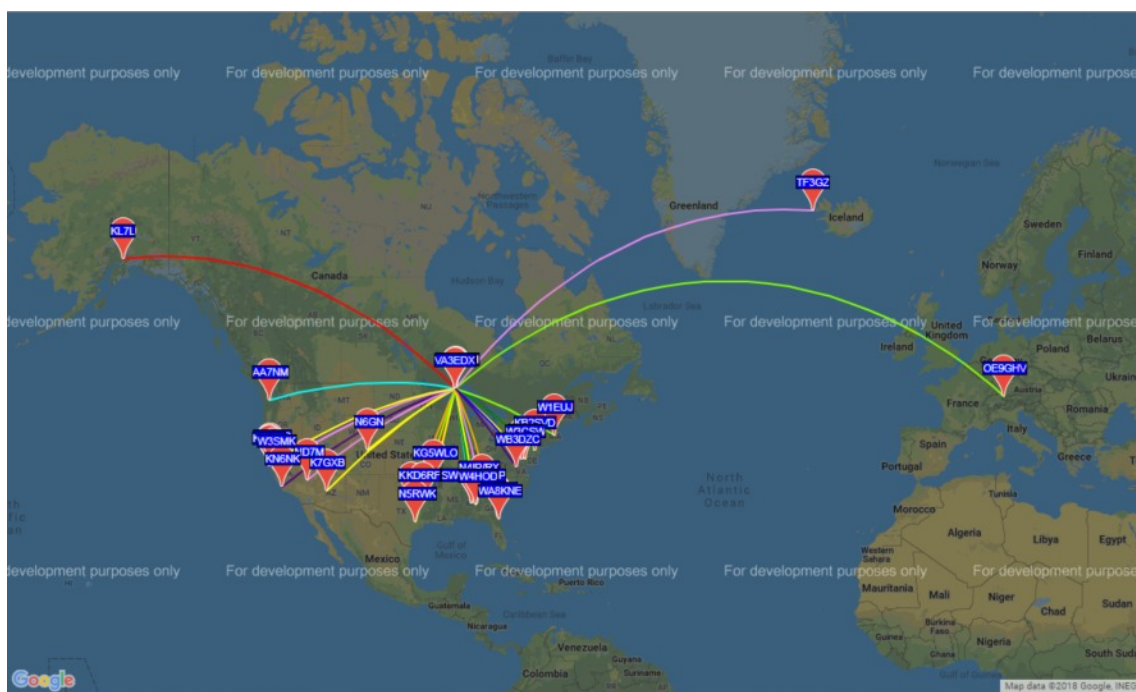
Results of the Great Antenna Shoot Out (Part 2)

You will remember that we took 3 WSPR transmitters and set them up on different bands and different antennas earlier in the summer in the back yard at VE3SAO. Ach WSPR TX was set to 200 mW O/P. We let them run for approximately 1 hour from 18:30 to 19:30 UTC and then looked at how many reception reports each one garnered.

The first antenna was Doug's own design and home brewed from scratch cup antenna. It consists of two stainless coffee mugs that act as capacitors and tuned to resonance on 20 metres with an inductor. As you can see he got some solid hits from the southern states and one on the west coast.



Next up was Mike's VE3EDX who was using a N2CX design kitted by the QRP Guys that Mike assembled. It is a full quarter wave on 20 metres and tuned to 30 and 40 metres by adding series inductance at the base of the antenna. For portable operations and ease of set up it's hard to beat and very reasonably priced.



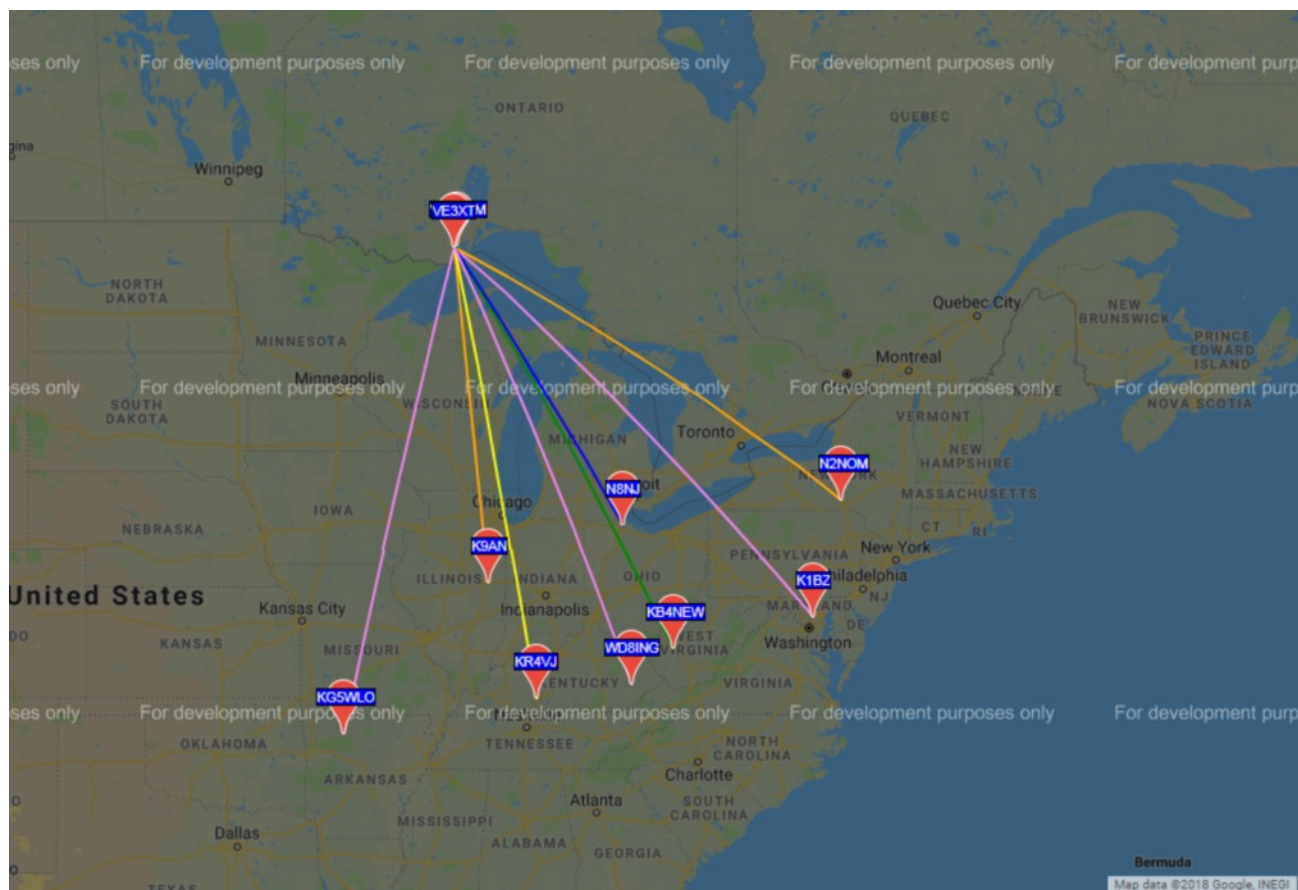


Results of the Great Antenna Shoot Out (Part 2) (cont'd)

As you can see he got a lot more hits including one each in Europe, Alaska and Iceland. Not to mention many into the states.

Finally let's take a look at VE3XT's antenna set up. It was also a N2CX design bought from the QRP Guys but set up for 30 metre operation.

As you can see not as many hits but some good reports from south of us to the eastern seaboard.



So what does this all mean?

There's an old adage that says "size matters" and this also applies to antennas. It's hard to beat a full quarter wave vertical with some radials compared to other antennas. Also keep in mind that if your antenna didn't fall down last winter it probably wasn't big enough.

Even though I was using the same antenna as Mike, mine was loaded with inductance to resonant on 30 metres. It is now a compromise antenna and the results show that.

What all three antennas show that any wire will radiate and is capable of making contacts. So saying you can't put up a big sky wire is no excuse for not getting on the air.

Finally with the weather changing its starting to be getting close to antenna season. So go get some wire, a jar of DX grease and hang it in the air. See you on the bands.

Bill 'XT



A Battle of the Bands - Bill Unger VE3XT

We've all heard that the new mode FT 8 is slowly making all the old modes obsolete. Well I wouldn't put RTTY out to pasture just yet. The September 29th weekend was the CQWW RTTY contest. Here is a screen capture using my KX3/PX3 of the middle of 40 Metres at ~0015 UTC on the 30th.

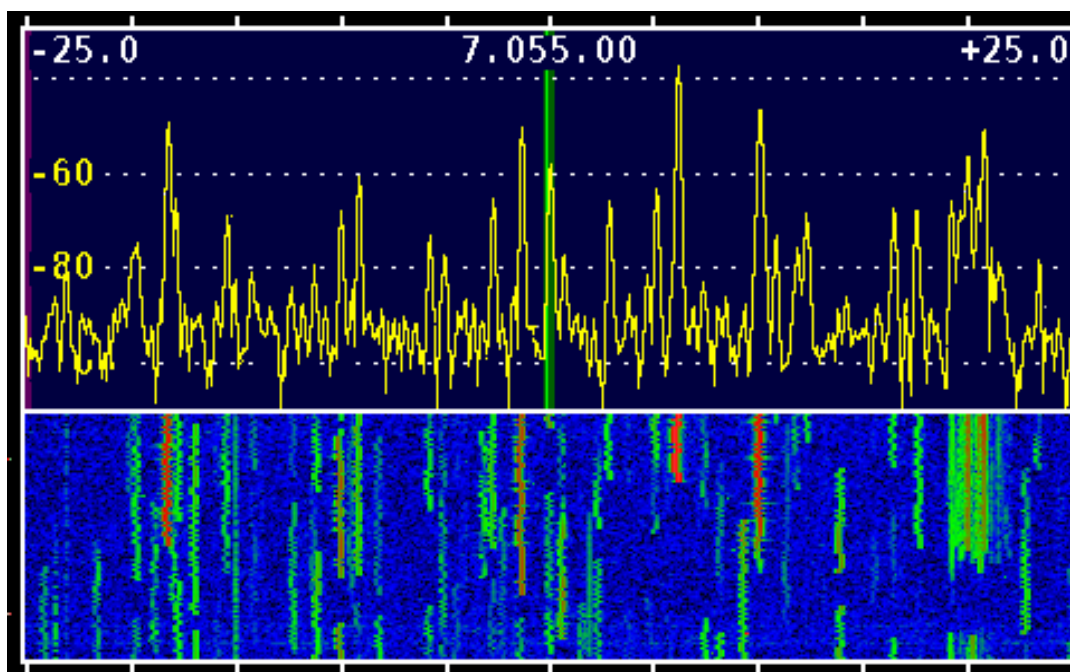
The frequency on the left edge is 7.03 MHz and on the right edge corresponds to 7.08 MHz

You can see all the signals on the upper pane and on the bottom if you look closely you can see the wobble in the signals in the bottom pane. This is the frequency shift in the RTTY signal.

At ~7.075 you can see the band of FT 8 signals. There are probably close to as many signals in that few kHz as the rest of the band. The screen capture was taken just as the FT 8 signals started, hence the gap on the bottom. There is no denying that FT 8 is very efficient when it comes to packing in a lot of QSO's into a very small bandwidth and copying signals down into the noise. There could well be as many FT 8 signals over a 2 kHz range as those between 7.03 to 7.08 MHz

But it is interesting to notice that many of the FT 8 signals are equal in strength to the RTTY signals.

Whatever mode you choose with the onset of cooler weather I hope you can get active on the air. And remember, NO antenna work until there's snow on the ground!



Jan and Al's Links of Interest

<https://www.how2shout.com/how-to/how-to-translate-text-to-morse-code-or-morse-code-to-text-online.html>

<https://www.cnyhomepage.com/news/importance-of-amateur-radio/1463943529>

<http://www.lubbockonline.com/news/20181001/peggy-sue-gerron-inspiration-for-buddy-holly-song-dies-in-lubbock>



Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club Fall Flea Market Sunday, October 14, 2018

Heritage Victoria Community Centre, 950 Sturgeon Rd, Winnipeg, MB



Doors open for EyeBall contacts at 8:30

Coffee & Pastries will be sold

Admission is \$ 5.00

Vendor Setup will begin at 9:30

Doors open for the Flea Market at 10:00

Prize Draws will be held at 11:30

1 Door Prize \$ 100 and 1 Door Prize of \$ 50 & 50/50 Draw

**Please contact Ruth VE4XYL
at ve4se.xyl@gmail.com
or 2048 376 915 to book
your table.**

**Table rental is
\$5.00 for members
\$10.00 for nonmembers.**





October 2018



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Canadian Thanksgiving	9	10	11 LARC Meeting 1900 Rm 214 McIntyre Bldg ConCollege	12	13 QRP ARCI Fall QSO Party	14 South Dakota QSO Party WARC Flea Mkt - Wpg
15	16	17 CW OPS Mini CWT Test	18	19 Zombie Shuf- fle, 4 to Mid- night local time	20 JOTA see event at SAO	21
22 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	23	24 Phone Fray	25	26	27 CQ WWDX Contest, SSB, listen and work Tom, VE3CX or Brad, VE3MXJ as PJ2T	28
29	30	31 Hallowe'en			3 November ARRL Sweepstakes, CW	